

1. I WONDER IF WE'LL GET ANY MORE CHRISTMAS CARDS?

2. NO, I'M SURE WE WON'T.

3. ANY CARDS THAT WERE FOR US HAVE ALREADY BEEN DELIVERED. WHAT MAKES YOU SO SURE?

4. OH, JUST CALL IT A HUNCH.

1-2

DAVE COVERLY

I'M GLAD YOU INVITED THE NEW NEIGHBORS FOR DINNER.

ME, TOO. MY, THAT ANNE CERTAINLY HAS SOME STRONG OPINIONS.

AND JOHN. ISN'T HE JUST KNOWLEDGEABLE ABOUT EVERYTHING?

I CAN'T WAIT TO SEE WHAT ELSE THIS EVENING BRINGS.

WHY ARE WE TALKING IN CODE?

OH, HECK. YOU START THE CAR, I'LL GET HILARY. WE'LL SNEAK OUT THE BACK AND START A NEW LIFE ON THE ROAD.

SMITH

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WHADDYA KNOW!
A SPIDER-MAN
COSTUME!

HE JUST
DISCOVERED
I'M SPIDER-
MAN! SO
WHY IS HE
LAUGHING?

HEY,
MAN! A---
THERE'S
ANOTHER
ONE!

I JUST
FOUND A
COUPLE,
TOO!

BECAUSE OF THAT NEW
MOVIE, EVERY ACTOR
WITH A COSTUME IS
HEADING FOR HOLLYWOOD!

MAN
LARDER
EYER

POSTURE IS ONLY THE BE-
GINNING OF BEING A SIDE-
CHICK...THERE ARE EYESIGHT
AND TOOTH
ALIGNMENT
ISSUES...

...BURP, DROOL,
BREATH AND
RUNNY-NOSE
ISSUES...

HOLD ON,
TO WHAT
EXTENT
ARE BODY
FUNCTIONS
COMPROMISED
BY SIDENCHICKERY?

THEY'RE NOT COMPROMISED,
JUST ACCENTUATED...YOU
DO ALL THE THINGS A HERO
CAN'T BE SEEN TO DO IN
PUBLIC.

BREAK OUT
IN A SWEAT
FOR ME,
WILL YOU?

I ALREADY
HAVE.

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RAT-A-TAT
RAT-A-TAT

TOCH! IT'LL BE THE YOUNG LAD FROM THAT FINANCE COMPANY AGAIN, TRYING TO PUSH EASY LOANS —

I'LL GO, PET, LEAVE IT TO ME

HE'S NOT ONE FOR RUSHING INTO DEBT — HE WAITS TO BE APPROACHED

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I WAS FEELING LIGHT AS A FEATHER UNTIL YOU MENTIONED HOMEWORK.

SORRY. WHEN IS IT DUE?

NOT TILL MONDAY!

WWW.XMATEMEDIA.COM

I SAIL THE TREACHEROUS NORTH SEA, LANDING ON THE ROCKY SHORES OF ENGLAND, AND FIGHT MY WAY SOUTH THROUGH THE INTERIOR REGIONS UNTIL I FINALLY LAY SIEGE TO THE HEAVILY FORTIFIED AND STRONGLY DEFENDED CITY OF LONDON!

OKAY, BUT TRY NOT TO BE LATE FOR DINNER

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DON'T GET TOO EXCITED
IT'S PROBABLY JUST
A MIRAGE.

01002

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NOBEL PRIZE COMMITTEE

OKAY, WE'VE NARROWED IT DOWN TO THE THEORIES WE DON'T UNDERSTAND.

IN SCIENCE, THE SIMPLEST SOLUTION IS USUALLY THE BEST. WHICH OF THESE THEORIES IS THE SIMPLEST SOLUTION?

WELL... THAT WOULD BE WHATEVER IS ON TOP OF THE PILE.

ARE WE SURE WE CAN'T VOTE FOR OURSELVES?

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STAYSKAL

"Tests show you're 100 percent again. I guess that extra-strength placebo worked!"

Actress **Anna Lee** ("General Hospital") is 85. Former television evangelist **Jim Bakker** is 59. Actress **Wendy Phillips** is 46. Actress **Gabrielle Carteris** is 37. Actress **Tia Carrere** is 31. Actor **Cuba Gooding Jr.** is 30. Model **Christy Turlington** is 29.

T ₁	A ₁	O ₁	R ₁	R ₁	G ₁

S ₁	E ₁	I ₁	P ₁	T ₁	R ₁

R ₁	R ₁	C ₂	Y ₄	O ₁	H ₄

A ₁	I ₁	L ₁	A ₁	R ₁	D ₂

RAC

HAC

RAC

RAC

4th Letter
Duolet

Triple
Word Score

PAR SCORE 115-125

by JUDO

FOUR RACK TOTAL

TIME LIMIT: 20 MIN

DIRECTIONS: Make a 2 to 7 letter word from the letters in each row of points on each word, using scoring directions at right. 7-letter words get a point bonus. ("Blanks" used as any letter have no point value. All Judd words are in the Official Scrabble Players Dictionary (Univ.-Webster) and the Official Scrabble Words (Chambers).)

JUDD'S SOLUTION TOMORROW

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For solution, see Classified.

Cars of the past

B C A X V D S Q O L C J H E C
 A X V T R U P N N O S D U H L
 J H F D B E Y X R T Y V L T R
 P L O M K S R D U T L I L A G
 E D E B Z E X D B U L W E V O
 U T R S K N E Q U C I O W A T
 N L J C D B I H A K W G X N O
 F R E M A E T S Y E L N A T S
 D H C K A R I A V R O C M I E
 C Y E X W G V N T S R P O N D
 D R A K C A P L K J I G F E C

Thursday's unlisted clue: **ORR**

Find the listed words in the diagram. They run in all directions - forward, backward, up, down and diagonally.
Friday's unlisted clue hint: HENRY FORD'S SON

Auburn	Corvair	Maxwell	Studebaker
Avanti	De Soto	Nash	Tucker
Checker	Duesenberg	Packard	Willys
Cord	Hudson	Stanley Steamer	

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For solution, see Classified

No. 1121

By Bobby Wolff

In heated discussion, East criticized West for his trump lead, claiming a club lead would have led to defeat. Throwing more fuel on the fire, he said, "A trump lead is one of the worst leads in bridge."

When West countered by claiming there was no defense to beat the slam, the most important lesson of the hand was lost in the exchange.

West's futile trump lead gave South an easy time. He drew the remaining trumps, gave West his diamond ace and claimed 12 winners. He discarded his losing clubs on dummy's red-suit winners.

Dummy's red-suit winners.

Easty claimed that a club lead was imperative with West's holding and this bidding. "You must attack and lead from something against a small slam," he claimed.

"Hogwash," retorted West. "Against a club lead, the slam is cold. He draws trumps, cashes dummy's hearts and discards his losing diamond. Then he concedes a club to my king, and his 10 gives him his 12th trick."

Vulnerable: North-South
Dealer: East

The bidding:

	East	South	West	North
Pass	1 ♠	3 ♣ *		3 ♥
Pass	4 ♥	Pass		4 ♠
Pass	4 NT	Pass		5 ♠
Pass	6 ♠	All pass		

*pre-emptive

Opening lead: Spade four

Did West have the better argument? His analysis was correct; no lead beats the slam. However, his lead was poor. Against a small slam, the aim is to win two tricks. Assuming the defense will gain the lead only once, it's best to attack on opening lead. (Leading from a king or a queen or leading a singleton is best; a trump lead worst.) If the defenders are lucky and develop a second winner, they can cash it when they win the expected one trick.

ACROSS

- | | | |
|---------------------------|-------------------------------|------------------------------|
| 1 Israel, to some | 35 Plane capt.'s announcement | 59 Symptoms of otitis |
| 9 Closest odorizer | 36 "Just simmer down!" | 61 Operatives |
| 15 Source of cubes | 40 Kind of beetle | 62 Battle of Britain fighter |
| 16 Individually | 41 Aerosol | 63 Dumas's "La Reine —" |
| 17 Jazzy rhythm technique | 42 African antelope | 64 Work boot feature |
| 18 Four-wheeler | 43 A four-star meal | |
| 19 Promulgate | | |

- 1 Heckle, in a way
- 2 VIII
- 3 Plaintive cry
- 4 Akshito, e.g.:
Abbr.
- 5 Kind of kid
- 6 Director
Kurosawa
- 7 Early comics
name

MAKE	BAAS	KRIS
OLAN	IDLES	IAGO
NORM	VALET	WIGS
THEED	DAMSFAMILY	
HANSEL	IOI	
	HAVARTIFIVEO	
DUM	DEMO	AFFECT
ETAT	PAM	SECT
BACALL	RASP	REO
THEM	UENSTERS	
	AGO	TOUSLE
ROO	UEFORTFILES	
HINT	NATAL	TINT
ETUI	DIONE	INDIE
WASP	REDD	RENE

Puzzle by Chuck Daddene

- | | | |
|------------------------|----------------------------|--------------------------|
| 27 Alberto VO5 | 48 Kind of knife | 64 Voucher |
| rival | 49 English novelist | 55 Parade honoree |
| 28 Wind | Corelli | 56 "Uh-huh" |
| instrument | 50 Vein | 58 Inflationary |
| 31 A-test site, | 51 Swenson of | suffix |
| perhaps | "Benson" | 60 Toronto |
| 32 C-metaphor | 53 Absorbed | Argonauts' org. |

Answers to any three clues in this puzzle are available by touch-tone phone: 1-900-420-5656 (75¢ per minute). Annual subscriptions are available for the best of Sunday crosswords from the last 50 years: 1-888-7-ACROSS.